

## Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 CAB-09 COME-00 EB-11 FAA-00

DRC-01 /152 W

----- 028922

R 041945Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1981

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMCONSUL CURACAO

USCINCSO

AMCONSUL MARACAIBO

UNCLAS CARACAS 10352

BOGOTA FOR FISHER

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT PBOR VE

SUBJECT: ROLE OF VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES IN ELECTIONS EXPLAINED

1. IN NATIONWIDE RADIO AND TELEVISION ADDRESS DECEMBER 3 FROM  
THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME ELECTORAL COUNCIL (CSE) IN CARACAS,  
MINISTER OF DEFENSE GENERAL GUSTAVO PARDI DAVILA AND THE OTHER TOP  
OFFICERS OF THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY, APPEARING TOGETHER WITH THE  
PRESIDENT AND TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CSE, EXPLAINED THE ROLE  
OF THE ARMED FORCES IN THE ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 9.  
THE MILITARY OFFICERS EMPHASIZED THAT THE ARMED FORCES WOULD DO  
EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO ENSURE THAT THE ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE  
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PEACEABLY, AND PLEDGED THAT THE ARMED FORCES WOULD RESPECT THE

RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS AS PROCLAIMED BY THE CSE. THE AREAS OF  
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARMY, NAVY, AND NATIONAL GUARD FOR GUARDING  
THE VOTING PLACES BEFORE AND DURING THE VOTING WERE DELINEATED,  
AND THE TASK OF THE AIR FORCE IN FLYING THE ELECTION RESULTS FROM  
THE INTERIOR TO CARACAS WAS EXPLAINED. THE OFFICERS PROCLAIMED  
THAT THE ARMED FORCES ARE PROUD TO MAKE THIS MAJOR CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE FUNCTIONING OF VENEZUELAN DEMOCRACY. GENERAL PARDI  
DECLARED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION SHOULD BE RECEIVED  
"WITH ENTHUSIASM AND FAITH."

2. GENERAL PARDI ALSO REPORTEDLY TOLD NEWSMEN AFTER THE TELE-  
VISION PROGRAM THAT VENEZUELA'S BORDERS WOULD BE CLOSED AT 1800  
HOURS ON DECEMBER 8 (PRESUMABLY UNTIL THE POLLS CLOSE IN THE  
LATE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 9). HE ALSO REPORTEDLY TOLD THE PRESS  
THAT "INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC" (PRESUMABLY AIR) WOULD CONTINUE, BUT  
ON A REDUCED SCALE. HOWEVER, CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES HAVE INFORMED  
US THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS TO SUSPEND ANY  
DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC. WE WILL ADVISE IF ANY SUCH  
SUSPENSION IS ANNOUNCED.

MCCLINTOCK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMED FORCES, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AIR TRAFFIC, ELECTIONS, BORDER CONTROLS, TELEVISION BROADCASTING  
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**Subject:** ROLE OF VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES IN ELECTIONS EXPLAINED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PBOR, MASS, VE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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